



Presenter Biographies

Marguerite Buehner, RDN, MHSA

Clinical Assistant Professor
University of Detroit Mercy
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Ms. Buehner is a Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Periodontology and Dental Hygiene, University Health Center Coordinator (UHC), and a Special Needs Patient Specialist. Ms. Buehner supervises dental hygiene students and dental students at both the UHC and Corktown clinics. She is the Nursing Home Outreach supervisor where dental hygiene students treat residents residing in Long Term Care Facilities. Ms. Buehner teaches Special Patient Care curriculum to both dental and dental hygiene students. She also teaches Concepts in Professionalism and Dental Materials to dental hygiene students and is the advisor to the dental hygiene students in their student membership with the American Dental Hygiene Association. Ms. Buehner is admired by her students and has received many outstanding faculty member awards presented by the hygiene students. Ms. Buehner holds a B.S. degree from the University of Detroit Mercy and a Master's in Health Services Administration degree from the University of Detroit Mercy. She joined the University faculty in 2001.

Curles Colbert, Jr. DDS

Clinical Lead and Assistant Professor, University of Detroit Mercy
Michigan Dental Association Board Trustee
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Dr. Colbert graduated from University of Michigan School of Dentistry in 1978. He practiced privately until joining the Faculty at the Detroit Mercy Dental School in 2014. Dr. Colbert served as Director of Predoctoral Clinical Education at Detroit Receiving Hospital (DRH), University Health Center (UHC); a 44-chair dental clinic dedicated to serving USA Veterans, those covered under the umbrella of the Ryan White Program and others that might otherwise fall through the cracks of a health care safety net.

Bradley Gellar, JD, BA

Attorney
Michigan Center for Law and Aging
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Bradley Gellar served as counsel to the Age Discrimination Study conducted by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights beginning in 1976. He subsequently developed a legal services project for older adults in a three-county area in Michigan, work which led to his 1982 book, *Change and Choices: Legal Rights of Older Adults*.

As counsel to the Michigan House Judiciary Committee, Mr. Gellar drafted the Michigan Guardian Reform Act of 1988, and participated in drafting statutes creating the durable power of attorney for health care and the do-not-resuscitate procedure act.

As counsel to the Washtenaw County Probate, he initiated Project Dignity, promoting alternatives to full guardianship; education of guardians, conservators, and guardians ad litem; use of mediation; and creation of a volunteer guardianship program.

Recently he served as an assistant state long-term care ombudsman, working toward improving the quality of care and quality of life of residents of nursing homes, homes for the aged and adult foster care homes.

Kirsten Nunham, RN

Health Care Surveyor

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Kirsten Nunham is a Registered Nurse and has been a Long-Term Care Surveyor for 5 years. Previously, she worked in long term care as a floor nurse and as an infection control coordinator. Ms. Nunham received advanced training in the new Long Term Care Survey Process, and has supported her survey team in the implementation of this new process.

Gloria Pizzo, RN, BSN

Quality Program Manager

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Gloria Pizzo is a Quality Project Manager for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) funded task: Coordination of Care and Medication Safety and Adverse Drug Event Prevention Initiatives. She is responsible for overseeing the implementation and management of all assigned contracts, including projects, deliverables and staff while actively participating in a collaborative team model to identify strategies and interventions across the healthcare continuum that promote achievement of project goals. She assists health care providers in developing educational tools for a broad range of improvement projects. Her responsibilities include the development, evaluation, and dissemination of information related to improving transitions of care and patient safety programs for Medicare beneficiaries. She serves as lead for the CMS 10th Scope Of Work Adverse Drug Event Initiative collaborating with multiple health settings and multidisciplinary teams focusing on process improvement for medication management and reduction of adverse drug event.

Cara Poland, Md, MEd

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Cara Poland, MD, M.Ed., FACP, FASAM was trained in internal medicine at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor Michigan and in addiction medicine at Boston Medical Center in Boston, Massachusetts. She has an interest in educating physicians and physicians-in-training to improve care for patients with substance use disorders and alcohol use disorders. She is interested in medical student curriculum development and assessment, student well-being and identifying ways to improve the process of medical training. She is professionally active in multiple societies including acting as the current President of the Michigan Society of Addiction Medicine. She is currently the medical director of a program for treatment of pregnant women with substance use disorders and has a general addiction treatment practice. She is an assistant professor at Michigan State University where she acts as a Learning Society Chief.

Pat Posa, RN, BSN, MSA, FAAN
System Performance Improvement Leader
St. Joseph Mercy Hospital
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Pat Posa, RN, MSA, FAAN is the Population Health Clinical Integration Leader for St. Joseph Mercy Health System in Southeastern Michigan. In this role, she has implemented a risk prediction tool and associated interventions within the hospital and post-acute settings. She also works as a Quality Excellence Leader for St. Joseph Mercy Hospital leading initiatives to reduce hospital acquired conditions, readmissions and other quality related areas.

She has held various roles in healthcare in the hospital, ambulatory care settings and health plans over her 37 years in practice including manager of inpatient critical care units, Director of Nursing and Administrator of an outpatient multispecialty/primary care clinic.

Pat has been involved in many quality and patient safety programs such as hospital and system wide sepsis management program and a state-wide Keystone ICU patient safety initiative. She has been faculty for multiple state and national clinical collaboratives including the Surviving Sepsis Campaign Phase IV Collaborative and the national project on Comprehensive Unit Safety Program (CUSP) for Mechanically Ventilated Patients. She was inducted as a fellow into the American Academy of Nursing in 2013. In 2017, Pat was awarded the Michigan Hospital Association Quality and Patient Safety Leadership Award.

Pat received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan and her Master of Science in Administration from Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

Steve Posa
Sepsis Survivor

Steve Posa is a 60-year-old husband, father, grandfather, uncle and friend to many. He has had two episodes of sepsis, one being septic shock.

Laura Remus, BS, REHS
Environmental Health and Safety Section Manager
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Laura Remus is the Section Manager of the Environmental Health and Safety Section within the LARA Bureau of Community and Health Systems. Laura manages a team of Sanitarians that performs food service, physical environmental and emergency preparedness portions of surveys for Long Term Care facilities as well as the Fire Safety Unit that performs Life Safety Code surveys. Laura has previously been a Sanitarian with the State of Michigan since 2007 and has previous experience as a Sanitarian in Local Public Health. She holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Health and Safety Management from Ferris State University and is a Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) with the National Environmental Health Association.

Gerald Rodabaugh
Fire Safety Supervisor
Bureau of Community and Health Systems
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Gerald Rodabaugh is the supervisor for the Bureau of Community and Health Systems, Environmental Health & Safety Section Fire Safety Unit.

Gerald has over 33 years of Fire, EMS and Inspecting experience in his previous job and over 1 ½ years with the State of Michigan.

Cynthia DL Thelen
LTC State Administrative Manager
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Cynthia DeLeon Thelen is a State Administrative Manager in the Federal Survey and Certification Division, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs within the Bureau of Community and Health Systems. She supervises a team of health care surveyors and is responsible for the complex case management of both standard and complaint survey protocols for 52 Michigan facilities.

Her experience in providing nursing care ranges from: medical/surgical, internal medicine, hematology/oncology, bone marrow transplant, adult rehabilitation, pulmonary, and closed geriatric psychiatric units. She worked in the roles of nurse, educator and Director of Nursing in a sub-acute rehabilitative and long-term care skilled nursing facility.

Ms. Thelen has been a nursing educator for 15 years. Currently she is an Adjunct Professor at Spring Arbor University, where she additionally serves as a Gerontology Specialty Area Advisor. Ms. Thelen earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, her Graduate Teaching Certificate in Health Care Systems from Eastern Michigan University, and graduated from the University of Mary with a Master of Science in Nursing degree.